GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3050
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002
IMPORT OF EDIBLE OIL
AVTAR SINGH BHADANA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;JAI PRAKASH;KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of edible oil imported during the first half of the current financial year;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange spent on the said import;

(c) the reasons for large scale import of edible oil during the above said period;

(d) whether this large scale import has adversely affected the domestic oil seed producers particularly of Karnataka; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of oil seed growers of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (S SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a)&(b): As per latest available information, the quantity & value of edible oil imported during the first month of the current financial year, i.e. April, 2002 is as under:

Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs.lakhs)
252666	45115.77

Source: Directorate General of Foreign Trade

(c): There is a gap between demand and indigenous supply of edible oils. The Government, with a view to ensure availability of edible oils in the domestic market, has allowed import of edible oils except coconut oil under Open General License (OGL). In April, 2001 the import of edible oils was of 3,57,399 MTs. Compared to that the import in April, 2002 is lower.

(d): No, Sir.

(e): Does not arise.